

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USINT HAVANA
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AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
USLO PEKING
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 211102

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: YO, US

SUBJECT: BELOVSKI CALL ON LUERS - INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

1. SUMMARY: YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR BELOVSKI CALLED ON DAS
LUERS ON AUGUST 15 TO DISCUSS A NUMBER OF SUBJECTS,
INCLUDING THE RECENT NONALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTERS
MEETING IN BELGRADE. BELOVSKI TRIED TO PUT THE BEST
GLOSS ON THE OUTCOME, COMMENTING THAT THE NEW US INTEREST
IN THE MOVEMENT, DEMONSTRATED BY THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE,
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WAS WELCOME AND THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME EVOLUTION IN A
DIRECTION WHICH SERVED US INTERESTS. LUERS EXPRESSED
DOUBTS BUT BELOVSKI INSISTED THAT THE "MODERATES" HAD
HELD FIRM AND WOULD BE ABLE TO DO SO AGAIN AT HAVANA
NEXT YEAR. ON PRC PREMIER HUA KUO-FENG'S VISIT TO
BELGRADE, BELOVSKI SAID IT WAS NOT INTENDED AS AN ANTI-
SOVIET EVENT. FINALLY ON THE RECENT BULGARIA-YUGOSOLAVIA

FLARE-UP OVER THE MACEDONIAN QUESTION, BELOVSKI SHOWED UNTYPICAL VEHEMENCE IN ARGUING THAT BULGARIA, WITH SOVIET BACKING, WAS PURSUING A BLATANTLY ANTI-YUGOSLAV POLICY. HE SOUGHT US SUPPORT FOR THE YUGOSLAV POSITION. END SUMMARY.

2. BELGRADE NON-ALIGNED FOREIGN MINISTER CONFERENCE. BELOVSKI BEGAN BY ASKING FOR LUERS' VIEWS ON THE BELGRADE MEETING. LUERS COMMENTED THAT WE WERE HAPPY WITH THE YUGOSLAV ROLE AT THE MEETING, BUT WE WERE NOT HAPPY AT ALL WITH THE RESULTS OF THE CONFERENCE ITSELF. WE HAVE BECOME MORE ACCEPTING OF THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT (NAM), HE SAID, BUT THIS MEETING DOES NOT SUGGEST THAT THE NAM AS A WHOLE HAS BECOME MORE ACCEPTING OF US INTERESTS. IN SOME WAYS THE RESULTS ARE MORE DAMAGING TO THE US THAN EVER BEFORE BECAUSE OF OUR MORE FORTHCOMING POSITION. THIS IS ESPECIALLY TRUE ON THE MIDDLE EAST, ZIONISM-AS-RACISM AND PUERTO RICO ISSUES. WE DO NOT BLAME YUGOSLAVIA, OF COURSE, AND PRESIDENT TITO'S SPEECH WAS AN ADMIRABLE EFFORT TO MAINTAIN BALANCE.

3. BELOVSKI DISPUTED LUERS CONCLUSION OF DAMAGE TO US INTERESTS, SAYING THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME EVOLUTION IN A DIRECTION WHICH SERVED US INTERESTS. PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE HAD BEEN VERY WELL RECEIVED, AND INCREASED US ATTENTION TO THE NAM COMES AT A TIME WHEN THE MOVEMENT

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ITSELF HAS GREATER INTERNAL PROBLEMS THAN EVER BEFORE. THESE PROBLEMS ARE THE RESULT OF ACTIONS AND POLICIES PUSHED BY NAM "RADICALS", SPECIFICALLY CUBA AND ITS SOVIET BACKERS. THE OUTCOME AT BELGRADE, HOWEVER, WAS THE AFFIRMATION OF THE "MIDDLE COURSE", WHICH INCLUDED SPECIFIC CONDEMNATION OF "HEGEMONISM", AS WELL AS "IMPERIALISM". BEFORE THE MEETING THE CUBANS TRIED TO PRESSURE YUGOSLAVIA, BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. SO CUBA QUIETED DOWN AND BEHAVED ITSELF DURING THE MEETING. YUGOSLAVIA AND THE OTHER MODERATES (INDIA, SRI LANKA, ZAMBIA AND OTHERS) DID NOT YIELD. BUT THE PROBLEM HAS NOT BEEN RESOLVED, AND CUBA WILL CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS, WITH THE SUPPORT OF A HANDFUL OF OTHER COUNTRIES. THE BELGRADE DOCUMENTS WILL, HOWEVER, BE THE BASIS FOR THE HAVANA SUMMIT NEXT YEAR.

4. BELOVSKI SAID THAT THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY PARTS OF THE FINAL DOCUMENT WHICH THE US WOULD NOT LIKE, BUT THESE SHOULD BE COMPARED WITH THE YUGOSLAV DRAFT, WHICH WAS Milder IN NEARLY EVERY CASE. FURTHERMORE THE FINAL DOCUMENT SHOWED GREATER LATITUDE AND FLEXIBILITY IN SOME AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE US, NAMELY KOREA AND TO SOME EXTENT PUERTO RICO. THE SOVIETS DID NOT SEND A MESSAGE,

AND THEIR REPORTING OF THE EVENTS WAS ONE-SIDED IN SUPPORT OF CUBA'S POSITION. THEY HARDLY REPORTED TITO'S SPEECH AT ALL.

5. ON THE QUESTION OF "HEGEMONISM", AND "EXPANSIONISM", THERE ARE SHARP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN AFRICAN STATES, AND THE MAJORITY ARE CONCERNED OVER BEING BROUGHT INTO POWER BLOC INTERESTS. THE NAM HAS NOT YET PASSED FINAL JUDGMENT ON CUBA'S ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA. CONCERNING

HAVANA AS THE SITE OF THE SUMMIT NEXT YEAR, YUGOSLAVIA FEELS THAT A DECISION AGAINST HOLDING THE MEETING THERE WOULD DAMAGE THE MOVEMENT FURTHER. YUGOSLAVIA HAS NOT GIVEN ITS 100 APPROVAL YET BUT BELIEVES THAT THE NAM
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MAJORITY, EVEN IN HAVANA, WILL BE CAPABLE OF HOLDING THE MOVEMENT TO ITS PROPER COURSE.

6. HUA KUO-FENG VISIT. BELOVSKI THEN TURNED TO THE VISIT OF PRC CHAIRMAN AND PRIME MINISTER HUA KUO-FENG TO YUGOSLAVIA, CLAIMING THAT IT IS STRICTLY A BILATERAL EVENT AND THAT YUGOSLAVIA DOES NOT ALLOW OTHERS TO INTERFERE IN ITS RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES INCLUDING WITH THE SOVIET UNION. YUGOSLAVIA HAS NOT MOVED ONE WAY OR THE OTHER ON THE SINO-SOVIET ISSUE. IT IS NOT WORRIED ABOUT HUA'S VISIT AND WILL NOT ALLOW THE VISIT TO BE USED PURPOSELY FOR INTERFERENCE IN OTHER RELATIONS. LUERS THANKED BELOVSKI FOR HIS PRESENTATION, AND ON THE LATTER POINT NOTED THAT THE HUA VISIT WOULD BE ONE OF THE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN RECENT YEARS AND THAT REGARDLESS OF YUGOSLAV WISHES, IT WILL BE SEEN AND PORTRAYED AS HAVING ANTI-SOVIET OVERTONES. BELOVSKI REITERATED THAT WHATEVER OTHERS MAY SAY, YUGOSLAVIA DOES NOT SEE IT AS AN ANTI-SOVIET EVENT.

7. YUGOSLAVIA-BULGARIAN DISPUTE. BELOVSKI RAISED THE BULGARIAN EXCHANGES IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS OVER THE MACEDONIA QUESTION. HE SAID BULGARIA WAS FOLLOWING "AN OFFENSIVE POLICY IN THE BALKANS," AND THAT THEY WERE CLEARLY ACTING AT SOVIET INSISTENCE. THIS IS A SERIOUS QUESTION AND ONE ON WHICH THE US SHOULD HAVE AN OPINION. "YOU MUST EXAMINE THIS SITUATION; YOU CAN NOT BE NEUTRAL ON THIS MATTER". LUERS RESPONDED THAT WE ARE FOLLOWING THE SITUATION CLOSELY BUT THAT WE FELT IT UNWISE TO TAKE A POSITION ON A MATTER WHICH CONCERNED NATIONALITY QUESTIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE. BELOVSKI REPLIED THAT THIS WAS NOT A NATIONALITY QUESTION, BUT RATHER A LARGE-SCALE DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST
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YUGOSLAVIA. YUGOSLAVIA "EXPECTS" THE US TO TAKE A POSITION. AMBASSADOR EAGLEBURGER COULD RAISE THE MATTER IN BELGRADE OR A STATEMENT COULD BE MADE HERE. THIS IS A TOTAL ANTI-YUGOSLAV POLICY BY BULGARIA, SAID BELOVSKI, AND IT CONCERNS ALL ASPECTS OF YUGOSLAVIA'S RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS AND WITH OTHER COUNTRIES. IT IS ALSO A CONCERN OF YOURS, BELOVSKI CONCLUDED. LUERS SAID WE WOULD LOOK INTO THE QUESTION FURTHER BUT GAVE BELOVSKI NO ENCOURAGEMENT THAT WE WOULD TAKE A POSITION ON THE MATTER. VANCE

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